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24 August 1987

DDCI:

RE: Speaking Invitation
 306th Bomb Group Historical Association
 Hyatt Regency Hotel, Crystal City
 19 September 1987

Prior to his confirmation, the Director tentatively accepted an invitation from his friend, US Circuit Court Judge Donald Ross, to speak to the 306th Bomb Group Historical Association on 19 September. When the Director's plans were firm for his overseas trip in September, a letter of regret with an offer to provide a substitute speaker was sent to Judge Ross. Earlier this week Judge Ross called requesting that you, as Deputy Director, speak to the 306th. You could expect an audience of approximately 700 (350 members and wives) representing a cross section from privates to generals. Many have returned to civilian life and are now retirees. The proposed format is 20 to 30 minutes of remarks following the banquet. Media coverage would be handled according to our guidance. Although the choice of the topic is for you to decide, Judge Ross suggested "The Role of CIA in Foreign Affairs."

According to Judge Ross, the 306th Bomb Group of the Eighth Air Force was the first American group to bomb Germany in World War II and flew 340 missions over France and Germany. The movie "Twelve O'Clock High" was based on this Bomb Group's experiences.

If you could work this into your schedule, the Judge would appreciate you substituting for him.

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Bill Baker

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DCI/PAO/WMB [redacted] jam/24Aug87/ [redacted]

Distribution:

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P 229

PAO 0040 87

Central Intelligence Agency

Washington, D.C. 20505

July 20, 1987

The Honorable Donald R. Ross
 Senior United States Circuit Judge
 Omaha, Nebraska 68101

Dear Don:

It was great seeing you at the conference. The Resolution in your honor was only a small part of how we all feel about you.

I believe Bill Baker may have told you that I am now locked into an out of country trip which will take me to several locations and which has been very carefully constructed. Unfortunately, I will still be traveling on Saturday, September 19th, and therefore will be unable to speak to the annual reunion dinner of the 306th Bomb Group Historical Association, much as I would have liked to do so.

I know that this invitation was personal to me, but if for any reason you wanted to hear from an official of the Agency, I will be glad to provide a substitute speaker.

I am sorry to have to disappoint you, and indeed disappoint myself, but I hope you will understand the circumstances.

All my best,

Sincerely,



William H. Webster

STAT DCI/PAO/WMB [redacted] emb/6 Jul/ [redacted]

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P-309-1R

Central Intelligence Agency

PAO 0040 87



Washington, D. C. 20505

The Honorable Donald R. Ross
United States Circuit Judge
Omaha, Nebraska 68101

Dear Don:

Thank you for your kind invitation to speak to the 306th Bomb Group Historical Association's annual reunion dinner in Crystal City on Saturday, September 19th. As I mentioned in my April 1st letter to you, I would be happy to accept the invitation unless a conflict arose. Unfortunately, my schedule calls for me to be out of town on that date, and I will have to decline the honor. I am sorry to miss seeing you and speaking to your members. If you wish, however, I will be glad to provide a substitute speaker for the evening.

Please give my warmest regards to your members, and let me know if there is anything further that I can do.

Sincerely yours,

William H. Webster
Director of Central Intelligence

STAT DCI/PAO/WM [redacted] emb/6 Jul/ [redacted]

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PAO 87-0040//

7 July 1987

JUDGE:

Speech Invitation
306th Bomb Group Historical Association Annual Reunion
Hyatt Regency Hotel, Crystal City
19 September 1987

You have tentatively accepted an engagement to speak at the annual reunion dinner of the 306th Bomb Group Historical Association the evening of September 19, 1987, at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in Crystal City. According to your schedule, you will be [redacted] at that time. Since you have a conflict, I recommend your regretting the invitation and offering a substitute. If you agree, I have attached a letter of regret to Mr. Ross for your signature.

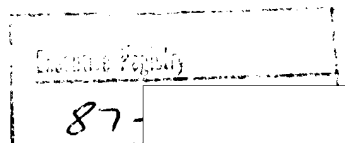
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Bill Baker

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DONALD R. ROSS
UNITED STATES CIRCUIT JUDGE
OMAHA, NEBRASKA 68101

REFERENCE

March 25, 1987

William H. Webster, Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Department of Justice
Washington, D. C. 20535

Dear Bill:

This letter will confirm my invitation to you to speak at the annual reunion dinner of the 306th Bomb Group Historical Association the evening of September 19, 1987, at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in Crystal City. We expect about 400 former members of the 306th Bomb Group and about 350 of their wives to be present on that occasion.

We appreciate your tentative acceptance of this speaking engagement with the understanding that in the event your duties prevent you from attending, you will have to cancel. I will be in touch with you in early August to firm up the arrangements. At that time I will also send you a brief history of this Eighth Air Force Bomb Group which was the first American group to bomb Germany in World War II.

Bill, I really appreciate this personal favor. You've been a good friend, and I wish you well in your new assignment as Director of the CIA. We are all grateful to you for being willing to accept this new responsibility.

Sincerely,

Donald R. Ross

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D-309-1R

4/14/87
WDE
Speech

April 1, 1987

Honorable Donald R. Ross
United States Circuit Judge
Omaha, Nebraska 68101

Dear Don:

Thanks for your letter of March 25th. I have put September 19th on hold and unless my new responsibilities develop a conflict (in which case I will notify you promptly), I'll be happy to join you.

Thanks for your good words about the CIA. You have to take some indirect responsibility for all of this.

Warmest regards,

Sincerely,

William H. Webster
Director

WHW:mfd

cc:ee 1816